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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: M.A. Walter, *et al.*

Art Unit: 1647

Serial No.: 09/292,862

Examiner: Sharon L. Turner

Filed: April 16, 1999

Customer No.: 21559

Title: NOVEL MUTATIONS IN THE *FREAC3* GENE FOR DIAGNOSIS AND  
PROGNOSIS OF GLAUCOMA AND ANTERIOR SEGMENT DYSGENESIS

BOX CPA  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, kindly cancel claims 1-17 and add the following new claims.

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18. (New) A method for treating a developmental defect or a disease of the eye, said method comprising increasing the *FREAC3* biological activity in a mammal diagnosed as having glaucoma.

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19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein said disease of the eye is glaucoma.

20. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein said developmental defect of the eye is characterized by anterior segment dysgenesis.

21. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein said developmental defect of the eye is Axenfeld-Reiger Anomaly.

22. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein said method comprises increasing the FREAC3 biological activity by increasing the number of biologically active FREAC3 molecules in said mammal.

23. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said number of biologically active FREAC3 molecules is increased by *in vivo* gene therapy.

24. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said *in vivo* gene therapy comprises inserting into the cells of the eye of said mammal a wild-type FREAC3 nucleic acid.

25. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein said wild-type FREAC3 nucleic acid is operable linked to a promoter.

26. (New) The method of 21, wherein said wild-type FREAC3 nucleic acid is inserted in said cells of the eye using a viral vector.

27. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said number of biologically active FREAC3 molecules is increased by administering to said mammal a composition comprising a wild-type FREAC3 polypeptide and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

28. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is physiological saline.

29. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein said composition is delivered by ophthalmic administration.

30. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein said composition is delivered by intraorbital administration.

31. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein said wild-type FREAC3 polypeptide is substantially pure.

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32. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein said mammal is a human.

Support for Amendments

Support for each of the newly added claims is found in the generally in the specification. Without limitation, however, the following table identifies specific support relevant to each claim. No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Support in the Specification</u>
18-22	page 9, line 20 through page 10, line 11; page 10, lines 6-11
23-26	page 8, lines 4-13; page 17, lines 13-22; and claim 14
27-30	page 13, lines 16-22; page 36, line 13 through page 37, line 7
31	page 14, line 24 through page 15, line 17

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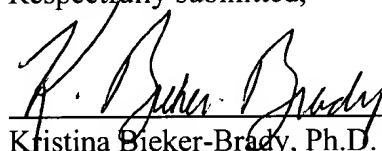
Applicants respectfully request that, effective immediately, all communication in this case be addressed to:

Kristina Bieker-Brady, Ph.D.  
Clark & Elbing LLP  
101 Federal Street  
Boston, MA 02110

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

September 13, 2002



Kristina Bieker-Brady, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 39,109

Clark & Elbing LLP  
101 Federal Street  
Boston, MA 02110  
Telephone: 617-428-0200  
Facsimile: 617-428-7045



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